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Concern

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Cover Photo

This week's CONCERN cover brings a happy surprise to "full circle." It shows **Miss Mamie Leech,** secretary in the Youth Department of the Board of Education of The Methodist Church, as she signed one of the first copies of the 1955 Lenten reading book, *I Belong.*

Miss Leech will be as surprised to see her picture on CONCERN as she was the day it was taken, when it was announced the new book was dedicated to her "with affection for an efficient, consecrated, and effective ministry to Methodist youth through the Youth Department."

With her are Dr. John Q. Schisler, at the left, executive secretary of the Division of the Local Church, which includes the Youth Department, and, continuing to the right, Harold Ewing, Youth Department director, and Joseph W. Bell, staff member responsible for the MYF program area of Christian Faith.

Miss Leech has served in the department long enough to have helped tie together the leadership and program of youth work under several directors and numerous staff members. Everyone who knows her likes and appreciates her ways and work. CONCERN is happy to join in tribute to one of Methodist youth's best friends.

Concern

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Large dose due

Young people (and their elders) across the country will hear a lot about proposed selective service legislation in the next few weeks.

Because the pending legislation, in effect, will amount to universal military training if it becomes law, the Council of the National Conference of Methodist Youth voted three weeks ago to make opposition to it a major and immediate project.

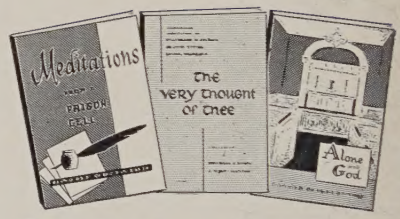
Why?

What is proposed?

What will it do to young people?

We urge you to read the facts and opinions on the subject and do some fast, hard thinking. Don't shrug your shoulders—it's both YOUR life and YOUR way of life and YOU CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

UMT!--pages 9-12



For Lenten Reading

MEDITATIONS FROM A PRISON CELL, **by F. Olin Stockwell, author of "With God in Red China."**

ALONE WITH GOD, **prayers by Grover C. Emmons, founder of The Upper Room.**

THE VERY THOUGHT OF THEE, **selections from the writings of Bernard of Clairvaux, Jeremy Taylor and Evelyn Underhill.**

Price 35 cents each, three for $1, postpaid.

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The world's most widely used devotional guide

1908 Grand Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.

National C. W. Mission Feb. 24-28

One thousand to be at Columbus, Ohio

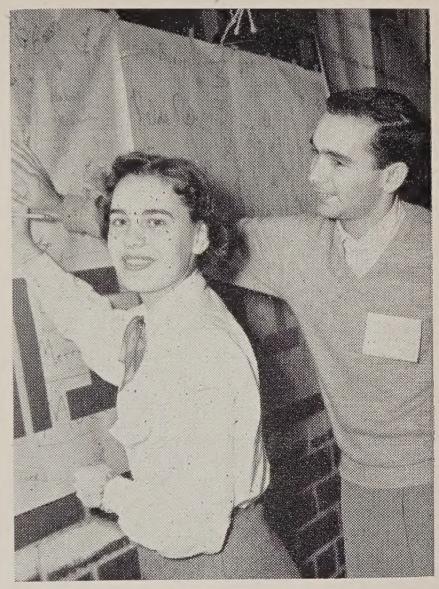
One thousand Methodist youth and adult leaders of youth have Columbus, Ohio, marked on their maps and Feb. 24 to 28 marked on their calendars.

That is the where and when of the 1955 National Christian Witness Mission and Workshop Conference.

Christian Witness Missions sessions will be in the churches of Columbus, and workshop sessions will be in the Y.W.C.A. building.

Bishops Hazen G. Werner and Matthew W. Clair will be headliners, with leaders from the youth department staff of the Board of Education, Board of Evangelism, and a number of Methodism's areas and conferences.

Christian Witness officers from each conference have been invited to attend, report, share, plan, and "tell how." Work will be done in churches of several denominations, on an interracial basis.



Karen Murphy of College Park, Ga., is shown autographing a poster at the North Georgia conference's MYF Christmas Rally at Athens Dec. 28. Looking on is Tony Anthony, also of College Park. Attendance reached 1,200.

Work camps planned for summer 1955

Ecumenical work camps, under the sponsorship of the Youth Department of the World Council of Churches, will be held throughout the world during the summer of 1955.

Countries participating include Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Korea, Lebanon, Malaya, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.

Each camp will comprise 25 to 30 young men and women, between the ages of 18 and 30, who will work together on a camp project. Only three to six Americans will be accepted for any one camp abroad.

There will be opportunity for worship, Bible study, discussions, excursions, and activities for the local community.

In the United States work camps will be held in Arizona, North Carolina, and Missouri, in cooperation with the United Christian Youth Movement of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.

All churches urged to boost attendance

A nation-wide church attendance crusade began the first of this month, sponsored by the Methodist Church and joined in by many denominations and other faiths.

Leaders point out that church attendance in the U. S. averages less than 30 per cent of the membership. The campaign runs through Easter, has as its theme, "God is our Strength."

Germans reminded of church meanings

Foundation of a "Central Committee for the 'dedication of the young' celebrations in the German Democratic Republic" set up to induce all young people, "whatever their religious beliefs" to participate in this "youth dedication" on leaving school, has caused leading churchmen in the Soviet zone to recall to parents and young people the distinct difference between confirmation in church and "youth dedication."

Church leaders in Mecklenburg and Berlin-Brandenburg drew attention to certain current church regulations. "Children participating in any rite contrary in spirit to confirmation in church will not be accepted as candidates for confirmation," runs one of the church rules existing in Berlin-Brandenburg.

The church statement says among other things:

"We are in perfect agreement with convinced adherents of Marxism-Leninism when we say that Christian faith and Marxist ideology are diametrically and irreconciliably opposed to each other." Hence the church had to insist on a clear distinction between confirmation in church and a secular "dedication of the young."

"All evangelical Christians, in particular candidates for confirmation, are called to witness joyfully and fearlessly to their Christian faith," concludes the statement.

Youth learn of other churches

Every church building has some minor repair jobs that never seem to get done—rooms to be repainted, windows to be cleaned, books to be mended. In Philadelphia, Pa., the young people of the churches are pitching in to help each other do the job in their own home churches and in the process are getting some first hand knowledge of each other's beliefs and church traditions.

Under the sponsorship of the city's Christian Youth Council, a division of the Council of Churches, young people are working together on a variety of service projects in neighboring churches of different historical, racial, and confessional backgrounds. Members of the host church, in turn, then return the courtesy by contributing to a similar project in the first church. Working with the young people, the minister of the home church has the opportunity to tell them something of the church's history and faith. Youth are feeling a greater Christian fellowship and realizing the role of each church in meeting common community problems.

Race Relations Sunday Feb. 13

Your observance of Race Relations Sunday on Feb. 13 will give aid to Methodism's 13 schools for Negroes. Gifts may be made by special offerings or from church budgets, and your youth or student group may want to help.

Dr. Hoover Rupert of Jackson, Mich., is shown autographing the new MYF Lenten reading book, "I Belong", which he wrote, for two youth of his congregation, James Breitmayer and Andrea Schultz. The picture came from the Jackson "Citizen Patriot."

NEWS

Haitian hospital to honor Dr. Schweitzer

The cornerstone of a new hospital named after Dr. Albert Schweitzer has been laid in Deschapelles, Haiti, by Dr. Emory Ross of New York, a trustee of the Albert Schweitzer Fellowship, and of the Grant Foundation which is building the new hospital.

The Grant Foundation was established and largely financed by the contributions of Dr. William Larimer Mellon, Jr., who conceived the hospital project as a tribute to Dr. Schweitzer in 1947 when he first heard of the latter's missionary and medical work at Lambarene, French Equatorial Africa. The Institution will have 50 beds for patients, as well as complete surgical and laboratory facilities.

Missionary worker visits missions

The Rev. Horace W. Williams, a director of the Methodist Church's program of missionary education in this country, left January 19 for a first hand look at mission fields.

His fact-finding trip will include month-long visits to India and Africa, and shorter stops in Hawaii, Japan, Formosa, Hong Kong, Singapore, the Philippines, North Borneo, Burma, and West Pakistan.

He will also inspect Methodist work at several points in Europe before returning home May 31.

Mr. Williams will gather information about the work and needs of the 1,534 Methodist missionaries in foreign fields, and report his findings to the church at home, particularly Sunday School classes and other groups.

Big hearts-- big gift to Korea

As of Dec. 31, American Methodists had given and pledged one and one-half million dollars in response to the Bishops' Appeal for Korea. The offering was received in local churches in December, with nearly $900,000 of it in cash reaching the church's central treasury by the year's end.

Bishop Hyungki J. Lew, in expressing his countrymen's appreciation for American sharing, said part of the money will go for general relief work —orphanages, social and rural work, etc. The other will be used for the rehabilitation of churches, the seminary, and schools.

He also expressed deep appreciation for the work of American service men in rebuilding Korean churches and institutions.

Methodist schools receive great gifts

Special gifts to Methodist colleges and universities totaled more than $28,000,000 in 1954 to set a record high.

The sum is likely to reach $40,000,000, it was predicted by Dr. John O. Gross, executive secretary of the Board of Education's Division of Educational Institutions.

He said some of the 116 schools related to the board did not report in time to be included in the year-end tabulation.

The summary listed more than $17,000,000 in gifts from individuals and church groups, and $11,000,000 in grants from foundations.

Single gifts or grants of $100,000 or more were reported by 22 schools.

Gospel Ship in Japan

Sunday School children in the Japanese United Church of Christ have dedicated their Christmas offerings this year to the evangelistic work of the Japan Inland Sea Mission which has been carried out for fifty years by a Gospel Ship called the "Fukuin Maru." It is used to reach the people on the 500 tiny islands around the Inland Sea. The ship can hold the pastor, the crew of two, and audio-visual equipment; it can also carry 50 to 60 children.

On a wide circuit

Threats do not achieve peace

Just as I sat down to breakfast the other morning, my radio blared forth something like this: "It is now announced that the U. S. Army has perfected a super-jet guided machine that can carry atomic shells anywhere in the world! They can be dropped in Moscow one hour after leaving America."

Somewhere around the same time a general of the U. S. Army ("a strong army is our guarantee of peace") was telling Europeans of the newest jet fighter-bomber and its devastating atomic capabiliites. Said he also, "This is something which will give the Russians cause for consideration and possibly keep them off so that we can continue to employ diplomatic discussions to a point where a hot war will never come about."

The Soviet Union recently signed in the U.N. an international statement on the freedom of the press. But an important journalism magazine, that influences the thinking and writing of editors and columnists, almost immediately came out with an editorial headed "Semantics."

Almost before the ink on the statement was dry, this journal was saying that to Russians the words and phrases held different meanings than to the rest of the world — the very word "freedom" means one thing in America, and quite another in a communist land —and therefore the document is worthless.

"Feelers" go out now and then for a "Big Four" conference. A government representative (U.S.A.) flies to one or gives a press conference concerning what one may do. And he frankly says, "I don't believe we can settle anything at this conference; it will (or would) be the same old thing over again"— or words to that effect.

Then the columnist — as happened just the other day—echoes the "statesman": "The attitude here would be different if Washington saw any evidence that Moscow really wanted to come to the conference table for the settlement of the problems. But no one here sees anything but an occasional dose of sweet talk, and even this is now in short supply."

The United Nations is engaged in a "highly delicate mission" in endeavoring to secure freedom for some prisoners held by Chinese communists. But a U. S. senator doesn't think they will be freed; and he advocates blocking the coast of China in reprisal. Another threatens economic reprisals. And there are other Americans ready to use the navy and the air force as a punitive measure. All of these threats command bold and bolder type in the press while the radio shouts them forth, and the exponents of "toughness" are sought as TV attractions.

Read through your daily papers or your news-weeklies and you will find continually quoted from high places these threats and innuendos, and casting of doubt and pre-judgments, and calling of lies and building of fear, hate, and misunderstanding. It may be well that the old days of "suave diplomacy" are gone (and we didn't fare too well in them!) but this new braggadocio and chip-on-the-shoulder diplomacy are not calculated to make for peace, goodwill, and mutual understanding either.

Mr. Reid

As we think and talk we eventually act. We reap what we sow: peace never comes from talking or sowing fear or hate, or from emphasizing or distorting differences in ideas or in actions. The general, the diplomat, the man-on-the-street must sincerely and continually **think** and **talk** the components of peace—otherwise there will be no peace.

—W. W. Reid

VIEWS

Genuine peace making

In dealing with "Christian realism" as opposed to the "realism of the world" I denied that I had had any "fullblown plan for world peace," but declared I cannot as a Christian approve use of atomic weapons.

I realize, of course, that more remained to be said than just this. Now I have before me a calm but compelling little pamphlet, published by the National Council against Conscription, which provides the inspiration to go a little further in the discussion of Christian realism. Written by John M. Swomley, Jr., it is entitled "*The Peace Offensive and the Cold War.*"

Swomley begins by pointing out something not very many people know, although few will be surprised to hear it—namely, that Karl Marx was the originator of the modern concept of total war: not only military, but economic, political, and psychological.

That, of course, is what the "Cold War" is—economic, political, and psychological warfare in an atmosphere of readiness for the military phase. That Russia is using this three-fold strategy is apparent to most Americans. Sometimes, however, Americans may overlook the fact that we are doing the same thing, as a nation, against Russia. Swomley quotes Col. C. F. Buck, teaching a 1953 Economic Mobilization Course in New York City, as follows (*New York Times*, 4-2-53):

"Our foreign aid program functions as a lever to reduce trade which might be useful to the Soviet Union and its satellites. Since our aim is to win the cold war without provoking a hot war, our program is extremely flexible. That means we keep the economic pressure on until signs of severe reaction appear, and then we ease it off."

The American public probably realizes what Swomley points out next: namely, that the Russians also are "trying to win the cold war without provoking a hot war."

So much for the power struggle. The important question for the "Christian realist" at this point becomes: what does the real peace worker do in the face of this situation?

A real peace movement must do more than advocate universal disarmament. It must seek to bring about, through non-violent revolutionary means, some real changes in the way men are behaving today. While opposing totalitarianism, it must make a witness for peace and brotherhood.

Christians who have a deep concern for peace should, together as a church or fellowship, reject war and truly practice brotherhood, trying to go beyond the stumbling-blocks set before them by Twentieth-Century society to the practice of what Jesus actually taught and lived.

—Claud Nelson, Jr.

Czech churches protest rearming

A letter signed by the representatives of the Protestant Churches in Czechoslovakia has been addressed to their "German brethren, and indeed all Christians of the world." It says in part:

"In these moments which in our opinion, are a decisive turning point of present international events, we address ourselves to you, as Brothers in Christ, in order to share with you our fears and our tasks.

"In the last few days we again had the opportunity of observing serious efforts of statesmen who were discussing the peaceful co-existence of European nations and the peaceful solution of the German question as well as the difficulties which lie in the path of the unification of Germany—and therefore we believe that this appeal is fully justified.

"We who are united with the German people by centuries of the Reformation heritage desire nothing so ardently as for the consequences of the Second World War to be done away with and for a united Germany to take her rightful place in the family of peace loving nations. But for this it is necessary not only for all people of good will, but especially the Christians, to do everything in order that a rearming of Western Germany be prevented . . ."

The authors of the letter say they are in agreement with "the representatives of German Protestantism" regarding their "outlook on the present situation." They also affirm that "it is necessary for all Christian churches, and especially their leading representatives, to address an urgent peace appeal to the governments of their nations and tirelessly remind them of their prime responsibility in this question."

Malik discusses Christian concern

Dr. Charles Malik, ambassador from Lebanon, speaking on the subject of "Christian World Responsibilities," said recently:

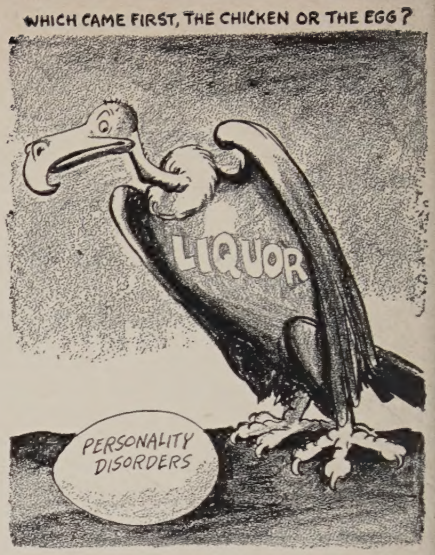
"Those who call themselves Christian, who love Jesus Christ above everything else, have great responsibilities in the world today. With the world, they must carry the cross of all its troubles, not indeed as though they have attained victory themselves, but rejoicing in the victory which Christ accomplished for them and for the world . . .

"It is very well to worry about Communism, about the East, and about secular culture; but **the Christian's primary concern is of course his Christianity.** In fact without a firm grounding in this, his appreciation of these other things will always remain questionable, unauthentic, and uncertain.

"Man can never be satisfied with his human dignity, no matter how wonderful, how essential, how true. He must look up to the hills, to the heaven . . . The world is not going to be saved tomorrow; so let us not be over-anxious.

"This is essentially a life of pilgrimage. It can be tolerated only if we keep faith and maintain fellowship with one another; only if He is our companion, our comfort, our end . . .

"The scandal of disunity among us is our greatest tribulation. Let us all therefore with utter brokenness of heart seek the original, integral unity of the Church. In the Orthodox Liturgy we have been praying for 1,500 years to the Lord and His mercy 'for the good estate of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all men.' "



UMT!

On behalf of Methodist youth and students, officers and projects secretaries of the National Conference of Methodist Youth are planning ways to register opposition to expected legislative proposals in the 1955 Congress for extension of the selective service draft and beginning of universal military training.

Part of the NCMY work will be done in cooperation with the Bishops' Crusade for World Order. Richard Thompson, NCMY president, and LeRoy King, projects secretary, plan to attend Congressional hearings in Washington soon and testify against UMT proposals. Other plans of action will be announced as soon as arrangements are completed—MYF and MSM members will find suggestions in the following pages.

Let's get some facts.

NEWS

President Eisenhower has said definitely that he means to make Universal Military Training his administration's number one objective in the new Congress, in spite of statements to the contrary during the 1954 political campaign. The issue may be one of the most bitterly contested, because feeling against permanent conscription is high, but military leaders have been wanting to institute UMT for a long time. The American Legion is making UMT its major legislative goal in this Congress.

What is Universal Military Training?

Simply, it's permanent peacetime conscription. No one claims it is "emergency action."

What kind of legislation will be proposed?

That remains to be seen. Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson said, on Nov. 30, that he would ask to have the 24-month Selective Service draft continued another four years from next June 30. He also wants to continue long-term voluntary enlistments, and begin some kind of UMT to build up a strong reserve. In the planning stages, the Administration proposal would sign up all physically and mentally-fit 18-year-olds, regardless of educational or marital status. Some would go into the regular military forces and others into National Guard or reserve units; including reserve duty for all, the total time of military "claim" on a young man's life would be eight years. There would be almost no deferments.

So?

So every physically-able young man would be required to undergo some military training and service, and be subject to military control over eight years of life regardless of educational, employment or marriage plans.

What does this mean on the whole?

It means the military leadership would control the nation's manpower in peacetime. It means that American men would be taught the habits of "obedience to command," which are the strength of military procedure; and the belief that, in the last analysis, only the use of force counts.

Americans, in time, would come to see the bearing of arms in defense of the country as the ultimate in citizenship, rather than voting, community service, or tax-paying, all of which leave an individual with his freedom of choice in operation.

It means American life and expectations on a free, individual basis would be seriously crippled—under military discipline the individual's chance to make free choices almost disappears.

Robert M. Hutchins has said:

"It is surely one of the greatest differences between a slave state and a free country that the one relies on external discipline applied to the citizens by the state, and the other relies on their own self-control and self-discipline."

Our ancestors left Europe, many of them, because they had learned from experience that where all men prepare

for war it becomes inevitable. Now there are those who believe that peace depends upon training for war, instead of training for peaceful action.

Now wait; isn't UMT a good formula for peace?

If so, Europe would be the most peaceful area on earth, since conscription began there earlier than anywhere else. The first "modern" military conscription law, passed in France in 1798, gave Napoleon "30,000 men a month to spend"—and "ultimately compelled all Europe to adopt similar legislation." Germany (Prussia) followed the principle of universal military service for more than a century—to notorious ends. Japan followed the European example in 1873, although strong objections were raised against it.

In 1926, prominent citizens of 14 countries made a world-wide appeal: "We ask the League of Nations to propose the abolition of compulsory military service in all countries as a first step toward true disarmament. It is our belief that conscript armies . . . are the grave menace to peace. Conscription involves the degradation of human personality and the destruction of liberty."

We need to be prepared somehow for a quick strike . . . .

"National armed force gives not security, but a gambler's hope of victory. In a hydrogen era, however, no victory is possible. Security requires more; it requires the prevention of war. War cannot be prevented by armed force, because each step a nation takes to increase its own security there decreases the security of all others."

Conscription does not prevent sudden attacks like Pearl Harbor. Poland, Norway, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Greece, Russia, Yugoslavia — all had conscription; all were attacked without warning. Strong military preparations invite sudden attack rather than safeguarding against it, because surprise offers the only hope of success.

What could we do, then?

First of all, we have to believe that war is not only terrible and evil and heart-breaking—the fact is, war just doesn't work. It doesn't solve problems —it maybe changes them into others, or adds new ones. But it makes more misery, adding to the trouble that started it in the first place. We must realize that war is useless as well as wrong.

We must come to realize that through a common, peaceful meeting place, such as the United Nations, and its service organizations, problems CAN be solved and wars avoided. Talk may be cheap, or slow, or tiring, but a peaceful discussion is much more likely to work out a problem than a battle is.

A strong nation of people with moral and Christian ideals must take the lead in the political field—that means America has the real responsibility in the world today. It is very doubtful if any substantial international disarmament can be achieved without real steps toward political agreements, which means changing the international climate. However difficult it is, the shift from a suicidal arms race has to be made before mankind can breathe easily.

The world's resources must be used for the benefit and development of all mankind—that means technical aid. We must help build a spirit of world understanding and brotherhood — that means study and endless good will.

That's work.

Yes. Never let anyone tell you that peace is easy to accomplish by any means, or that life offers challenge only if you bear arms and risk life against ammunition. It takes courage to try new ways, or to go against "popular" opinion. It takes great effort to risk love where force has dominated men's minds. But it solves more problems and achieves more peace.

Let's get back to UMT.

Oh, we're still with it. You need to understand these ideas about peace if you're going to think through what UMT means for you and your friends and your country. Albert Einstein, a great mind and great heart, has said: *"The 'get tough' policy, with its*

UMT!

VIEWS

ramifications, has largely united Asia against the West, and a continuation of this policy will complete this division of mankind into two hostile camps. Momentary successes must not blind us to this danger . . . International security can be assured only by supra-national organization and not by national armaments or alliances. Continual superiority on a military basis is neither desirable nor can it be maintained in the long run. In the long run it will be the population numbers that count if we continue on the road of brute force . . . National armament (UMT) does not produce security, but only increases the danger of conflict. The alternative to UMT is world government as the exclusive source of stabilizing power.

"UMT will greatly contribute to the promotion of a militaristic mentality in the American people and to the undermining of the democratic spirit, as has been the case in Germany from 1870 on."

Does anyone really want to "undermine the democratic spirit?"

The military system can't function democratically—it just isn't made that way, and never was. Many thoughtful Americans have come to the conclusion that the real purposes of UMT are:

◆ 1. To bring every American young man under exposure to and influence by the military mind for eight years.

◆ 2. To destroy the civil security of individual young Americans, to destroy civilian manpower controls, and to give the professional military leadership control at all times of all Americans of fighting age.

◆ 3. To give the armed forces an excuse to continue in service thousands of officers who otherwise would never be kept on active duty in peacetime.

◆ 4. To make strong in all of us "the habit of obedience" to military command—or in other words, to militarize America.

Wouldn't UMT be democratic in getting everybody in on the same basis?

Well, someone has said, "Coercion does not become democratic simply because it is applied to everyone. If *that*

UMT!

were the standard of democracy, then slavery would be democratic, and the armies of Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Russia would be prime examples of democracy . . . What democracy really means is the essential *equality* of all men, which is so denied by the army officer-caste system. It means the right to choose one's leaders, to criticize and make changes, to have a voice in the rules under which one lives, and to go on strike against injustice. Army discipline is the exact opposite of these, and is designed to reduce each individual to the role of a cog in the state machine.

"Democracies have been willing to risk this procedure in the interest of building an efficient army during a period of crisis. When they extend it permanently into peacetime, and to all citizens, they ape the very totalitarianisms they profess to abhor."

CUES

Isn't it about time somebody mentioned money?

It figures. Secretary of Defense Wilson has indicated that actual "defense" spending in the next year will run about 35 billion dollars "plus or minus a billion or two." A few years ago, during an extensive study of UMT proposals being considered, it was estimated that the cost of drilling one of you for six months would be nearly 40 times as expensive as worldwide support of the United Nations during the same period.

What does The Methodist Church say about all this?

In a statement that caught the attention of politicians and voters and the little man half-way around the world if he got a chance to know about it, the bishops of The Methodist Church declared in November:

"The proposal of universal military training threatens to rise again. Yet within our own lifetime, those who were the first to take the sword have perished by it. Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan were not saved by mili-

tary training. Their very domination by the military way of life evoked a false sense of security and a disregard for spiritual values.

"The church is concerned with our survival as a democracy penetrated by Christian values. Militarism as a way of life is a foe of democracy and our forefathers fled to these shores to escape it. We call upon our people to prevent any attempt to fasten peacetime conscription on the American people."

Most of the church publications are carrying special articles, and the National Conference of Methodist Youth is trying to get you to make up your mind and do something. There are enough interested persons to make a difference, *if they act.*

For instance.

First of all, get letters off to your Congressman and Senators. Tell them how you feel about UMT. Get others to write, too, and be sure you write a letter to your editor. Put the President on your letter list, and write to ministers in your county. Talk with your friends, and before every organization of which you are a part, whenever you get a chance.

ACT!

Arrange forums, debates, discussion groups, programs (like radio broadcasts or skits), an essay contest.

How about some material to look over?

A lot of the material we've been giving you here is from two fine sources in particular. One is the *Washington Newsletter* of the Friends Committee on National Legislation—you get six pages of up-to-date, clear information if you send for copies of the December, 1954, issue—five cents each, or $3 a hundred—to 104 C St., N. E., Washington 2, D. C. *The Christian Century,* 207 South Dearborn St., Chicago 5, produced a special section on UMT about four years ago from which we also have taken a wealth of information.

Now let's see . . .

Chosen at random, here are quotations on the subject of UMT from a variety of sources:

"No one can be subject to the beck and call of the military for a period of eight years without telling effect upon one's whole life and the lives of those closely related to him."—Dr. John E. Marvin in *The Michigan Christian Advocate.*

"The churches are commanded by their Lord not to be conformed to the world, but to transform the world. The churches of Christ can never rest content in a world supported on the thin edge of a bayonet.

"Were the churches to remain silent at a time when the genius of man and the labor of his hands are being exploited to accelerate a race in arms of unprecedented fury, they would forfeit the right to proclaim the gospel of Him who is the world's peace. What the secular order has a right to expect of the churches is that they shall remain steadfast in their witness to the things of God, and unswerving in their purpose so to permeate the world with the spirit of love and reconciliation that the nations will find security not in guns, but in goodness."—Dr. Walter W. Van Kirk of the National Council of Churches.

"There is no 'collective security' except by way of universal disarmament, and then only in conjunction with the development of the constructive spiritual force of goodwill, and popular recognition that all international disputes can and must be settled by peaceful negotiation."—Dr. Frederick J. Libby of the National Council for Prevention of War.

"It is the basic conception of the United States and its present policy that it is not possible for the U.S. or, indeed, for the U. S. and its allies to maintain at all danger points around the Soviet orbit of some 20,000 miles enough forces in place to withstand an assault . . . Therefore, we are relying in most of the areas of the world primarily upon the deterrent of striking power as an effective defense . . . building up a strategic reserve of land forces and relying at the front line primarily on sea and air power."—Secretary of State Dulles, Dec. 1954.

UMT!

BEFORE

THERE MUST BE SOMEONE MORE MEAN AND HEARTLESS EVEN THAN YOU, AND SOMEDAY YOU'LL GET YOURS, SARAH HARPER!
COME QUIETLY, PLEASE!

AFTER

THERE MUST BE SOMEONE MORE MEAN AND HEARTLESS EVEN THAN YOU, AND SOMEDAY YOU'LL GET YOURS, SARAH HARPER!
COME QUIETLY, PLEASE!

The illustrations above show changes made in comics according to a code of ethics being practised by the Comics Magazine Association of America. Code administrator is Charles P. Murphy, former New York City magistrate, who reports that his office has changed 1,656 drawings and rejected 126 stories since the code was established in October to ban all comics "offensive to public taste." Any comments on this example? (RNS)

"Horror books" banned in Lubbock

Lubbock (Texas) City Commission has passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale or display for sale of "any book, magazine, or other publication which depicts by use of drawings or photographs the commission or attempted commission of the crimes of arson, assault with caustic chemicals, assault with a deadly weapon, burglary, kidnapping, mayhem, murder, rape, robbery or theft."

An ordinance was passed in October creating a Board of Literary Review

MYF in action

"to call to the attention of the proper legal prosecuting authorities any literary or pictorial publication which in the judgment of the board should be investigated to determine whether or not it tends to the corruption of the morals of children or other persons and incites them to disregard of the law of the land."

The Board of Literary Review will be composed of nine members — five regular and four ex-officio, all to be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the City Commission.

MYF'ers in St. John's church, Lubbock, surveyed the entire city last summer to check on sales of "horror books" after a local doctor told how a child burned his friend at the stake after reading the idea in a comic book. The City Commission promised to take action if the MYF got enough people interested. As yet the Board of Literary Review has not been appointed.

MYF Roundup

◆ State Street MYF'ers in Bristol, Va., carried their Christian Outreach into their Christmas caroling and received more than $100 for Korean relief through the MCOR. The 36 senior MYF'ers, "Caroling for Korea," prayed before they went caroling.

◆ Maine Conference MYF leaders pictured at the bottom of this page include (l-to-r) Clifton Ives, Lewiston MYF Christian Witness chairman; Bruce Callahan, state Witness chairman; Lorraine Brown, state MYF secretary; William Wright, conference director of youth work; Hazel Gray, conference MYF president; Suzanne Selwood, Hallowell Witness chairman; and Vaughn Howland, Auburn Witness chairman.

◆ Upper-grades high school pupils, college and seminary students, and adults learning to be vocational counselors met for a West Virginia conference on Christian vocations after Christmas on the campus of West Virginia Wesleyan college, Buckhannon. Bishop Lloyd C. Wicke said a young person planning a Christian vocation should widen his horizon of reference, deepen his concerns, and look toward Christian perfection.

◆ Waco (Texas) district youth dramatized the Christmas story the night of Dec. 22 by having MYF members in costume act it out in Waco's main street. One of the girls, portraying the role of Mary, rode a donkey, accompanied by one of the boys as Joseph, and youth of other churches followed them down the street and sang carols until they reached a "stable" at the town square. After a devotional period the group divided and sang carols throughout the city.

CUES

Summer projects set for student service

A European work camp will be sponsored jointly this summer by the Methodist Student Movement and the Board of Missions in the Virginia Conference.

The work camp group probably will locate in Germany, Austria, Belgium or Yugoslavia after traveling through France and Switzerland en route, and return through London. Tentative dates are July 1 to August 15.

Detailed information on this and other projects is given in a pamphlet *Summer Service Projects for College Students*, available from Claude Singleton, Board of Missions, 150 Fifth Ave., New York 11.

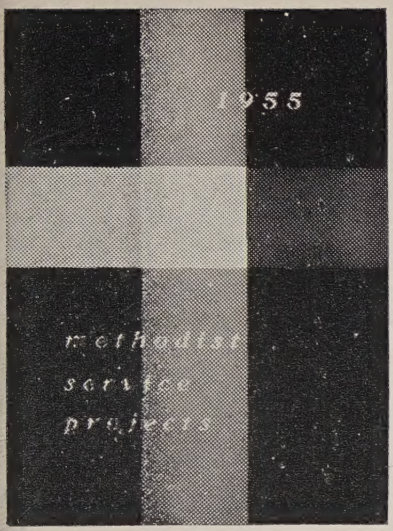
Spanish-speaking students are needed for the work camps in Cuba and Mexico. There also will be projects in Alaska, the Rio Grande valley, North Dakota, Washington D.C., San Antonio, Texas, Virginia, and a number of annual conferences in the United States.

Check this for new materials

In Christian Witness program planning, your group will want to make use of the new two-color flip chart *Win Youth to Christ*, to be used in training youth and their adult leaders in methods of personal visitation evangelism. Big and bright, 55 pages. No. 2430-C, $3 with order.

There's also a new leaflet, *How To Win Youth to Christ*, 2425-C, two cents each. Order leaflets and flip chart from Service Dept., Box 871, Nashville 2.

Maine Conference youth leaders, led by William R. Wright, conference director of youth work, stopped planning their Pilot Christian Witness Mission long enough to pose for a CONCERN picture. The CWM will be Mar. 5-6.



Want to serve? Read this--

Methodist Service Projects (1955) describes a wide variety of vocational opportunities in the various institutions and programs of The Methodist Church.

Personnel needs of the church in the fields of the ministry, missionary enterprise, Christian education and nursing are estimated at 5,150 persons annually. Seventy-three different categories of work are outlined in a dozen general program areas.

There also is a statement on a Christian philosophy of vocation, a listing of resource material on the subject, and information on Methodist student loan and scholarship funds.

Volunteer, summer-time and short-term service opportunities are described too, and there is an analysis of the relationship of the selective service law to church vocations.

Order from the Interboard Committee on Christian Vocations, Box 871, Nashville 2. Ten cents each, $8 a hundred.

1955 calendar for Youth Emphasis

"Calendar for 1955 for the Youth Emphasis in Your Church" is a new leaflet outlining the Youth Emphasis for the new year. It's 2402-B-55, free, from Youth Department, Box 871, Nashville 2.

Forum

To CONCERN:

Recently the W.S.C.S. of my home town church sent me two copies of CONCERN. I surely enjoy reading them because they keep a person up to date on the MYF throughout the country and tell quite a bit on world affairs, on our own level, so we can understand the world problems clearly.

I'm a fellow who, until recently, didn't have too much to do with church except to go because I thought I had to. Now, being away from home and traveling around the world, it sure is good to know where there are friends in church.

I'm stationed in Alaska at Ladd Air Force Base, about three miles from Fairbanks. We aren't far from the Arctic Circle. For the last four to five weeks the temperature hasn't risen—about 20 below zero. The coldest in that time was 42 below.

I'll be rotating home next July. Until then I wonder if I could get some addresses to write to. Would you help me out? It would give me something to do during the winter months.

I'm 21 years of age. I love swimming, mountain climbing, hunting and fishing. I come from Northampton, Mass., and my pastor there is L. S. Staples. Before I came into service I was president of our MYF. We have quite a bit of trouble with getting an active program so the kids will come and stay. I'm helping in youth work in the church up here to better myself for when I go home.

Bob Knight

(Editor's Note: CONCERN will forward your letters to Bob. And Bob, how about some news for us on MYF in Alaska? Any pictures?)

Friends of CONCERN

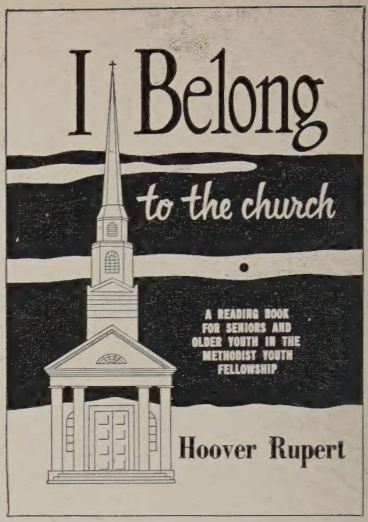
(Sent in five or more subscriptions)

Jim Hill, Texas 6
Judy Baker, Texas 11
John Benz, Iowa 7
Helen Murray, Iowa 7

(Hurrah for Texas and Iowa!)

The 1955 Lenten Reading Project in the Methodist Youth Emphasis

for Seniors and Older Youth



A new book about the Church, just for young people. Pocket-size. Interesting. Good reading. For personal reading and informal group discussion.

Leaflet about the project (2424-B) and a simple discussion guide based on the book (2432-B) available free from

The Youth Department
Box 871
Nashville 2, Tenn.

Single copies, 35 cents each.

Ten or more copies, 30 cents each.

You can order them on consignmen if you want to—sell the copies an then pay for them.

Send your order to The Methodis Publishing House which serves you The book is available now. Send you order soon so you will have them o hand early in February, to be abl to put them on sale in plenty of tim before the beginning of Lent (whic is Feb. 23).

Please order from the House serving you.

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